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April 12, 1985

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The Honorable Sam Nunn
Room 303
Dirksen Building
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Nunn:

As you may be aware, there was a recent broadcast on NBC portraying the efforts of a Swedish diplomat, Raoul Wallenberg, in saving Jewish citizens of Budapest during World War II.

Today, with all the problems of world hunger, racial and religious wars, and nuclear proliferation, it would be very easy to forget one man, regardless of his courage, whose heroism took place in yesterday's nightmare. Considering the reports filtering out of the Soviet Union as late as 1975 confirming Mr. Wallenberg's continued existence in Soviet labor camps, how can we forget him?

I consider myself an intelligent student of world affairs and am well aware of the complexities of the U.S.-Soviet relationship. Perhaps President Reagan and his Cabinet might consider an outcry for his release too embarrassing in today's atmosphere of hostile negotiations. However, how can we allow a man possessed of such extraordinary courage to spend his last years in prison, his only crime that of caring so much for innocent victims.

I have also written to President Reagan, Senator Mattingly and the Soviet Embassy. I seriously doubt if the Soviets would willingly divulge information on Mr. Wallenberg at this late date, let alone release him. An effort toward this end must, however, be attempted.

That this is not the most critical issue you face is obvious. However, any influence you might exert to help free him is dictated by conscience. I have always admired you for your courage in dealing with issues not necessarily high on the popular agenda and your ability to clarify complex problems. Please use your enormous influence in the international community to bring an end to this tragedy. Whatever I can do to help would be an honor.

Thank you very much for your time and efforts.

Sincerely,

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